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Message Text

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14-12
ACTION ITF-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 SR-02 ORM-01 VO-03 SCA-01 AID-05

IO-10 IGA-01 SY-05 DODE-00 PM-03 SS-15 NSC-05 L-03

INR-07 SP-02 PA-01 PRS-01 /077 W
---------- 085985
R 280745Z MAY 75
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5843
INFO AMCONSUL MELBOURNE
AMCONSUL SYDNEY

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EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: SREF
SUBJ: POSSIBLE AUSTRALIAN ACCESS TO COMPUTER REGISTER OF VIETNAMESE

REF: STATE 115920

1. IN RESPONSE TO REQUEST IN REFTEL EMBASSY HAS SUBMITTED NUMBER OF REQUESTS TO DEPT (FOR IATF) FOR INFORMATION ON WHEREABOUTS OF VIETNAMESE REFUGEES AND CONTINUES TO RECEIVE FURTHER INQUIRIES. WE CAN APPRECIATE THAT PROCESSING THESE REQUESTS IS VERY TIMECONSUMING, AND THE VOLUME IS PROBABLY SUBSTANTIAL.

2. HOWEVER, IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF MAY 28 PROFESSOR PHILLIP GROUSE, DEAN OF WARRANE RESIDENTIAL COLLEGE AT UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES IN SYDNEY AND AN EXPERIENCED COMPUTER PROGRAMMER, RAISED THE POSSIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING A PROCEDURE BY WHICH THE COMPUTER REGISTER OF VIETNAMESE REFUGEES AVAILABLE TO IATF MIGHT BE INTERROGATED DIRECTLY FROM AUSTRALIA. THIS WOULD EASE BURDEN ON IATF AND ACCELERATE PROCESS OF IDENTIFYING REFUGEES FOR RESETTLEMENT IN AUSTRALIA. UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES HAS COMPUTER TERMINAL FACILITIES THAT MIGHT MATCH WITH U.S.NAVY COMPUTER UNDERSTOOD TO BE IN USE FOR REFUGEE REGISTER. IN THIS CONNECTION PROFESSOR GROUSE POSED FOL QUESTIONS:
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A) WHAT LINE PROTOCOLS AND WHAT SOFT WARE PROTOCOL IS IN USE
BY COMPUTER USED FOR REFUGEE REGISTER?

B) WHAT IS SECURITY OF THE DATA BASE? SECURITY CLEARANCE MIGHT
BE ARRANGED. (PROFESSOR GROUSE HAS HAD HIGH-LEVEL AUSTRALIAN
SECURITY CLEARANCES IN PAST, ACCORDING TO HIS STATEMENT).

C) WHAT IS ACCOUNT NUMBER AND PASSWORD NECESSARY TO OBTAIN ACCESS
INTO COMPUTER SYSTEM? SECURE PROCEDURE MIGHT BE NECESSARY FOR
ACCESS IF TELEX OR TELEPHONE LONG-LINE LINK TO NAVY COMPUTER
IS USED.

3. PROFESSOR GROUSE WOULD BE PREPARED TO GO TO U.S. OR TO
GUAM (WHEREVER COMPUTER IS LOCATED OR PROGRAMMING ACCOMPLISHED)
AROUND JUNE 20 TO REVIEW PROCEDURES FOR ESTABLISHING DIRECT
LINK BETWEEN AUSTRALIA AND COMPUTER. HE STATES THAT THERE ARE ABOUT
400 VIETNAMESE STUDENTS IN AUSTRALIA, ONLY 23 OF WHOM HAVE BEEN
ABLE THUS FAR TO ESTABLISH THAT THEIR RELATIVES (SOME 172 IN
NUMBER) HAVE BEEN ABLE TO GET OUT OF SOUTH VIET-NAM AND ARE IN
U.S. REFUGEE CAMPS. HE ESTIMATES TOTAL NUMBER OF REFUGEES
RELATED TO THESE STUDENTS WHO MIGHT ULTIMATELY COME TO
AUSTRALIA AT ABOUT 450, ON BASIS OF RATE AT WHICH CONTACT CURRENTLY
BEING ESTABLISHED.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: THAT DEPARTMENT INDICATE WHETHER IT IS
FEASIBLE TO ESTABLISH DIRECT LINK BETWEEN U.S. COMPUTER REGISTER
OF REFUGEES AND AUSTRALIA AND WHETHER THERE IS UTILITY IN
PROFESSOR GROUS VISITING U.S. OR GUAM FOR THIS PURPOSE.
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